

THE LIBRARY JOURNAL.

VOL. 7.

OCTOBER, 1882.

NO. 10.

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Communications for the JOURNAL, exchanges, and editors' copies, should be addressed C: A. CUTTER, Boston Athenæum, Boston, Mass.

European matter may be sent to the care of H: R. TRDDER, Athenæum Club, Pall Mall, S. W., London.

Remittances and orders for subscriptions and advertisements should be addressed to THE LIBRARY JOURNAL, 13 & 15 Park Row (P. O. Box 943), New York. Remittances should be made by draft on New York, P. O. order, or registered letter.

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LIBRARY committees who are impatient of the expense of the catalogue, who appoint a cataloguer without any qualifications because he will do it for \$1.50 a day, or propose to send for an auctioneer's clerk because he can do it quickly,* should lay the following to heart:

"It is curious to find a French scholar complaining that he can never find what he wants in the Bibliothèque Nationale, nor in any of the other Paris libraries; but that he always finds it best to cross the Channel and betake himself to the British Museum, where he can do in a week what would take a month at Paris.

"*'La bibliothèque anglaise est elle plus riche que la nôtre, les employés plus complaisants, ou le public moins nombreux? Nullement, nullement. Et tout cela, voyez-vous, n'est qu'une question de catalogue. Celui du British Museum est merveilleux.'*

Yet "the total amount assigned to the Bibliothèque nationale in the budget for the current

* The auctioneer's clerk showed how to do it quickly in the catalogue of the late Dante Gabriel Rossetti's library (sold July 5-7): Lot 465, *An old copy of Dante Divina Commedia*: Lot 476, "Ship of Fools," in black letter and vellum, 1519.

year is 1,174,000 frs. (£47,000), of which 500,000 frs. is for cataloguing."

MR. G. LOWELL AUSTIN, in his Boston letter to *The American Bookseller*, Oct. 2, speaking of Rev. A. B. Hervey's "Flowers of the Field and Forest," says, "The librarians, who are neither artistic nor interesting as a class—I do not mean socially—would class this elegant volume under the head of 'Botany,' I presume, and thus do the author, the artist, and the publisher a great injustice, for the book is not at all botanical—that is, tedious, dry, and repulsive." It is always well "to see ourselves as others see us," and therefore have we copied this judgment. But we must confess that we do not understand exactly how librarians are uninteresting "as a class," and yet "not socially." The majority of librarians in the United States belong to the gentler and, as our fathers used to think, the more interesting sex. He must be a bold man who declares a thousand American girls to be uninteresting. But if they are taken out of the class, how dull the rest of us must be to have brought such a reproach upon the body! We wonder also what the botanist who has so well reviewed Mr. Jackson's indexes in the present number would say to the definition of his chosen science.

MANY librarians will be pleased to learn that Miss Hewins' "Books for the Young" is now all in type. Having been compiled chiefly with a view to library use, it is intended to supply editions to libraries at specially low rates. Only a small edition will first be printed for the purpose of giving friends of the undertaking an opportunity for co-operating in a revision before stereotyping the pages. Those who wish to aid in the good work will receive early copies by notifying this office.

THE SELECTION OF BOOKS FOR SUNDAY-SCHOOL LIBRARIES AND THEIR INTRODUCTION TO CHILDREN.

By S. S. GREEN.

It is gratifying to notice that the movement started several years ago by certain ladies connected with the religious body known as Unitarian Congregationalists, who organized themselves under the name of the Ladies' Commission for the purpose of reading children's books and preparing lists of them suitable for Sunday-school libraries, has led within two or three years to the formation of a similar organization in the Protestant Episcopal Church, and more recently to that of one among Orthodox Congregationalists.

Individual clergymen and others have also lately shown a great interest in the work of selecting and disseminating good lists of books suitable for Sunday-school libraries.

It is unnecessary to say that it was high time that this work was entered upon earnestly. The officers of the more intelligently administered public libraries had come to reject, almost without examination, books prepared especially for the use of Sunday-schools, and without consideration to refuse works admission to their shelves issued by certain publishers whose business it was to provide for the wants of Sunday-school libraries.

It had become obvious, among other facts, that the same objections that were made to providing sensational stories for boys and girls in public libraries, lay equally against the provision of books usually placed in Sunday-school libraries.

The one class of books was generally moral in tone, but trashy in its representations of real life; the other, religious in tone, but equally trashy in its presentations of pictures of what purported to be the life of boys and girls.

Both classes of books were good in their intention, both similarly unwholesome.

Gratifying, however, as are the results of this movement, there is something more that needs to be done. Libraries must be purified from objectionable literature; new books must be properly selected; but after this kind of work has been done, a very important work remains to be attended to, namely, that of helping children to find out the books in the library that will interest them and pleasantly instruct them. Every child should be aided to get books suited to its age, its immediate interests, and its needs.

The *Library journal*, in its number for June gave the title of a catalogue of the books in the Sunday-school library of the Unitarian church in Winchester, Massachusetts. In this catalogue short notes are added to the titles of some of the books to show, when the titles do not give information enough, what subjects are really treated of in the books annotated.

Something beside this is desirable, however. Children need much personal aid in selecting books.

I have been conversant of the work of a minister who, about a year since, after examining

carefully all the books in the Sunday-school library of his church, and after taking out such volumes as he considered particularly objectionable and adding others which he knew to be good, set himself the task of talking with the children of his school about their reading. The school has a superintendent, but he, as minister, also takes an interest in it and has spent the time he has given to it, recently, in talking with the children, one at a time, about books, finding out from them their tastes and what they had been reading, and recommending to them wholesome books to read and interesting lines of investigation to pursue.

My principal object in writing this article is to show how books are selected and how children are interested in books in the Sunday-school in which I am a teacher. It seems to me that its methods are wise and worthy of being followed elsewhere. The Sunday-school referred to is that connected with the Second Congregational (1st Unitarian) Church in Worcester, Massachusetts.

Thirteen or fourteen years ago the library of this Sunday-school was carefully examined and weeded. Every book was read by competent persons, and the poorest books were put out of the library. This weeding process has gone on year by year; as new books have been added others not representing a high standard of merit have been removed from the shelves. Great care has been taken to examine conscientiously new books before putting them into the library. The result is that the Sunday-school now has an excellent library. It has found the catalogue of the Ladies' Commission of great aid in making selections, but has not found all the books recommended in it adapted to its purposes. A competent committee has always read the books recommended by the Commission, so as to make sure that such volumes only were selected as would meet the actual needs of the Sunday-school we have to provide for.

Books are now bought as published. A contribution of about a hundred dollars is taken up annually. This money is put into the hands of the Treasurer of the Library Committee, and the sub-committee on purchases get from a book-store such books as it seems probable will answer our purposes, read them carefully, and buy such as prove desirable. The sub-committee consists of two highly cultivated young ladies. When they have selected two or three books they make notes of their contents. The books are then placed on a table in the minister's room, and the superintendent of the school calls attention to them—reading to scholars a short description of each book prepared by the sub-committee, and inviting the scholars to examine the books after the close of the current session of the school or before the opening of the school the following Sunday. After these two opportunities have been given to the children to look at the books and handle them, they are put into the library and are ready to be taken out.

This sub-committee has taken another important step within a year or two. The members

have read over again all the books in the library and made notes descriptive of their contents, and the school has elected one of the ladies a consulting librarian. She sits at a little table in the school-room during the sessions of the school, and with her notes before her receives every teacher or scholar who wishes to consult about the selection of a book, and gives whatever assistance is asked for in picking out interesting and suitable books.

She is kept very busy and is doing a work of great value.

It is gratifying to me to find that this work of bringing the librarian into personal contact with readers and of establishing pleasant personal relations between them, which has been so fruitful in good results in the public library under my charge in Worcester, has been extended to Sunday-school work with so much success.

LOGICAL CLASSIFICATION.

In the *Library Journal* for September Mr. Schwartz, in replying to a contribution of mine in the May number of that journal, affirms that I misapprehended his scheme of classification in assuming it to be identical with that of the dictionary catalogue, and assures me that a careful reading of his previous article will correct that misapprehension. Unfortunately, however, for the force of Mr. Schwartz's objection, I said nothing whatever about his scheme of classification. I expressly stated that I merely joined issue with him on one point contained in his communication of the previous month, to wit: that there was no such thing as a rational classification of knowledge. In replying to this I attempted to show that such a classification was unquestionably possible in the biological and physical sciences, and would probably be found possible in others. Hereupon Mr. Schwartz reiterates his opinion, saying that it is one thing to select some special domain and establish a sort of order among the subjects comprised in it, and an entirely different matter to apply the same principle of arrangement to all human knowledge.

To this I would reply that a natural arrangement of the classes and subclasses in the biological sciences is something more than a sort of order. Such an arrangement is evidently a natural and rational one, since it follows the fundamental law of evolution which governs the development of all life itself, and I claim that no system of classification which is not based upon that law has here a chance of success. Whether this system, which I have endeavored to carry out in science, is applicable to other branches of knowledge, is the real point at issue. Mr. Schwartz thinks it is not. I think it may be; at all events I doubt if the conclusion is at present foregone to such an extent as to preclude a reasonable difference of opinion upon it. I look upon all efforts to establish a rational classification of knowledge as tentative experiments which may or may not prove futile, but the fact that no unanimity of opinion as to

any one system at present prevails does not seem to me presumptive evidence that a rational system will never be found, since the same objection might at one time have been urged against a similar classification in departments of knowledge now logically arranged.

Furthermore Mr. Schwartz says that assuming that my classification be generally adopted nothing will be gained for the general reader, since it will be necessary to be a biologist or a zoölogist to understand it. Remarking in passing that I am not arguing for the acceptance of *my* system, but for that of *a* system which follows the principles of classification now generally accepted by naturalists in their departments, I would say that unless such a system is carried too far in detail it will not be at all necessary for either the librarian or the reader to be a naturalist to understand it. The object I have endeavored to attain is the establishment of a system which shall be sufficiently comprehensive to suit special scientific libraries, and which can still be, by ignoring the ultimate and possibly penultimate subdivisions, elementary enough for the average library—this being one of the main features of Mr. Cutter's system.

The object of a classed catalogue, or a classified arrangement of the books themselves, is the bringing together, as far as is possible, of all related topics, so that a person seeking information on a given subject shall have all kindred subjects under his eye at the same time. This being the case, it is evident that the more thorough the classification the more aid the seeker will get from it. As to my system requiring an index, it is quite probable that it will. All systematic classifications of books do, not even excepting Mr. Schwartz's; but the "maze of logical subtleties and subdivisions from protoplasm to teleology" which Mr. Schwartz credits my system with is purely a figment of the imagination.

As the foregoing remarks are intended merely as a short commentary on Mr. Schwartz's views upon logical classification, I have here said nothing about the merits or possible demerits of his system—a subject I may take up at some future time.

RICHARD BLISS, JR.

A NEW FORM OF SHELF-LIST.

By J. SCHWARTZ, *Librarian of the N. Y. Apprentices' Library.*

It has been urged against the alphabetic-classed system of numbering books devised by me in 1871, that it does not admit of a shelf-list. As some librarians may have been deterred from adopting the system by this objection, I intend to show in this paper that a shelf-list, or, to speak more correctly, a *class-list*, can be devised for a library arranged on my plan that will give as much information and satisfaction as can be reasonably expected from such a list. Indeed, I venture to say that in the form here presented it will give more information than any shelf-list that I am acquainted with. While it is devised for a special system, it is general

in its application, and can be used in connection with any system of shelf arrangement.

I begin my explanation by assuming that every library adopting the system uses an accession-list, and that the accession numbers are written in the books recorded in such list. The only change that my method requires is that the accession numbers be written or stamped on the back or side of the cover as well as inside, as it would probably be somewhat irksome to open every volume when taking account of stock.

Assuming this preliminary point to be granted, my shelf-list is to be constructed as follows: A blank-book, with any number of pages or lines per page that may be thought most convenient, is to be ruled so that every two facing pages, will appear like the specimen submitted herewith. As the method requires only facing pages, it is understood that the first and last pages are to remain blank. While it is left optional with each librarian to select the size of book that may best suit his own convenience, probably the most convenient form would be a book of two hundred pages with 25 lines to a page, and a form of this kind is supposed to underly the explanations here given.

The left-hand page is to contain a list of works in each class in the order in which they are placed on the shelves. It is to be divided into seven columns, which are to be used as follows:

In the first column the shelf-number of each work is to be entered.

The second column will contain the author and title, care being taken that no title runs over the line.

The remaining five columns are reserved for the accession numbers of the several copies or volumes of each work. If the five columns will not contain them all, the title is to be re-entered in red ink, on the nearest vacant line, and the additional copies entered in the columns opposite that line.

As the order in which works are entered on this page is alphabetical, it will of course be necessary to leave space for future additions. No fixed rule can be laid down as to the number of lines that are to be reserved between each entry for this purpose, as the space required will vary according to the size and prospective increase of each library. If four lines are left vacant, the library can increase to four times its present extent and still record the books in strict (or nearly strict) alphabetical order. If four lines are not thought sufficient the number can be increased to five, six, or any other number that may be desired. If the space allowed should be filled, the two facing pages can be cut out and the matter thereon distributed over four pages, which can then be inserted in the list.

The right-hand page contains ten columns. In the first, third, fifth, seventh, and ninth, the accession numbers noted on the left-hand page are to be recorded in their numerical order, each number being entered on a separate line.

There will be no difficulty in arranging all the future additions in numerical order, on this page, as their accession numbers will necessarily be higher than those previously recorded.

The alternate columns are to be used, first, for recording at length the date and reasons for the loss of any volume, whether it be "condemned," "paid," "delinquent," etc., and, secondly, for check-marks in taking account of stock. As the number of entries of accession numbers on each line on the left-hand page is restricted to five, the volumes recorded on one page can never exceed those on the other, for the number of entries on the left-hand page is restricted to (5×25) 125, and the number on the right-hand page is the same, since there are 25 lines and five columns, and 25×5 is 125.

In taking account of stock by this form of shelf-list, one assistant takes the books in their shelf order and calls out their accession numbers to another assistant, who checks them off on the list on the right-hand page. In the specimen given the first four vacant lines will show the system of check-marks for twenty years. It is perhaps hardly necessary to add that no turning of leaves is required until all the accession numbers on each page are either checked or noted on a slip of paper as "missing."

A perfect shelf-list should give answers to the following questions:

1. How many works are there in a given class?
2. How many copies or volumes are there of a given work?
3. How many volumes are missing or now on hand of each work?
4. How many volumes have been added to a class in a given year?
5. What is the total number of volumes lost in a given class?
6. Why and when were these volumes lost?
7. What is the actual number of volumes on hand in a given class?

The shelf-list here presented claims to give satisfactory answers to all these questions, as follows:

The left-hand page answers questions Nos. 1 to 3.

1. Count the entries of titles.
2. Count the number of entries opposite the work in question.
3. Deduct the numbers that are crossed from the total number of copies.

The right-hand page answers the remaining questions, Nos. 4 to 7.

4. Count the entries (or lines) in the year in question.
5. Count the entries in the columns for lost books.

6. See the 2d and alternate columns.
7. Deduct the sum of No. 5 from the total number of volumes recorded.

With a shelf-list of this kind for every class, there ought to be no difficulty in taking stock or in rendering an exact and thorough account of every book added to the library.

LEFT-HAND PAGE

K. 2786	FAY. Crayon sketches.	23691	23692	23893	45316
K. 2790	FIELDS. Underbrush.	38791	52864	52865	52866
K. 2790a	— Same. New and enl. ed. Hosl., 1881.	61785	61786	72815	72816
K. 2791	FISKE. Unseen world and other essays.	20915	20919	45879	45880
K. 2791a	— Darwinism and other essays.	25310	38792	43212	71717
K. 2792	FITZ-ADAM. The world.	18721	18722	19915	19916
K. 2795	FOUNDS. Glimpses thro the cannon smoke.	33210	38799	41212	41213

RIGHT-HAND PAGE.

1880.	18721	////	71717
	18722	Cnd. 1883	72816
	19915	x x x x x	72510
	19916	Pl. 188:	72817
	20918	x x x x x	
	1881.	////	
	20919	x x x x x	
	23801		
	23802		
	23803	Deiq. 1882	
	25310		
	33210		
	38701	Cnd. 1885	
	38702		
	38709		
	1882.		
	41212	Cnd. 1883	
	41213	Cnd. 1883	
	43212		
	45316		
	45879		
	45880		
	52864		
	52865		
	1883.		
	52866		
	61785		
	61786		

Library Economy and History.

The literary undertakings of Herbert Howe BANCROFT. San Francisco, 1882. 12 p. O. Includes a description of his library.

The HISTORY of a village library [by] one of the committee. (Pages 377-8, of *Our continent*, Sept. 27.)

The library grew, three years ago, out of a musical society of young married and unmarried ladies, in an inland Pennsylvania town, and now counts 700 v.

LEIST, Dr. Fr. Urkundenlehre; Katechismus d. Diplomantik, Paläographie, Chronologie, u. Sphragistik. Lpz., Weber, 1881. 12+305 p. 8°+5 pl. sm. fol. 4m.

From the notice in the *Lit. Centralbl.*, 9 Sept., appears to be a useful and, on the whole, satisfactory introduction.

LONG, J. M. The philosophy of the sciences, or a classified scheme of knowledge, arranged with reference to right methods of instruction. Chillicothe, Mo., 1879. 12 p. O.+1 table, folded.

This was sent to me not long after the publication of my "Classification of the natural sciences" (*Lib. jnl.*, 5, 163-6), but as it was not intended for arranging books it has not been recorded in the journal. In the present general interest in classification, however, an interest which is extending to England, it seems worth while to place it on record here. The first divisions are Cosmology (Nature in its phenomenal aspects); Andrology (Humanity in its historic aspects); Ontology (Being as known intuitively). The first divides into Life and Matter; the second into Reactions of mind on matter and of mind on mind (Sociology); the third into Reason; Philosophy and Faith; Theology.

PENN, Arthur. Notes on reading. (In the *Century*, May, and reprinted in *Literary news*, Oct., p. 294-296.)

POOLE, W. F. Amer. Lib. Assoc., Cincinnati meeting. Report on the progress of library architecture, and resolutions of the Association concerning the building for the Library of Congress. Boston, Secretary's Office. 1882. 16 p. 8°.

SCHMIDT, Ch. Zur Geschichte der ältesten Bibliotheken und der ersten Buchdrucker, zu Strassburg. Strassburg, Schmidt, 1882. 84+200 p. 8°.

"Excellent ouvrage, rempli de faits intéressants et d'informations neuves."—*Revue crit.*, 17 juil., p. 58.

Bibliography.

ALLEN, W. Francis, *Prof. Univ. of Wisconsin*. The reader's guide to English history. Boston, Ginn, Heath & Co., 1882. 33 p. obl. O. 50 cts.

Every library should have this tool.

"No scholar in the country is more competent to do what is done here. In four parallel columns are set down (a) the genealogical tables of English rulers; (b) 'good historical reading, whether histories, biographies, or essays; (c) novels, poems, and dramas relating to each period; (d) 'the same class of works illustrating contemporary history.' Class b is not a mere list, but is expressly discriminated according to the bias or ability of the respective authors."—*Nation*, Oct. 5.

BOWEN, H. Courthope. A descriptive catalogue of historical novels and tales, for the use of school libraries and teachers of history, enlarged from the list in the *Journal of education*, March, 1882. London, E. Stanford, 1882. 6+5-29 p. 8°. 1s. 6d.

"Having had Mr. Justin Winsor's excellent 'Catalogue of English prose fiction in the Boston Public Library' as a basis to work upon, one might have reasonably expected the compiler to have drawn up this 'Descriptive catalogue' in a more precise and comprehensive manner. The list is almost entirely restricted to English or translated novels, and frequent errors in the names and in the classification of the titles point to scanty original acquaintance with the books. The compiler is evidently speaking ironically, when, in his preface, he remarks that he has 'tried to provide what seems to him a valuable aid to the school-teacher of history.'"—*Monthly notes*.

GOMME, G. Lawrence. Books on local government. (*In* BIBLIOGRAPHER, 1: 116-121, 149-154; 2: 46-50, and to be continued.)

JACKSON, B. Daydon. Guide to the literature of botany; a classified selection of botanical works, including nearly 6000 titles not given in Pritzel's "Thesaurus." London, for the Index Society, by Longmans, Green & Co., and Dulau & Co. 1881. 39 + [1] + 626 p. sm. Q.

JACKSON, B. Daydon. Vegetable technology; a contribution toward a bibliography of economic botany, with a comprehensive subject-index. Founded upon the collections of G. James Symons, F.R.S. London, Index Society, 1882. 12 + 355 p. sm. Q.

The series of publications by the Index Society includes two catalogues by the same author and in the same field, but the reverse of each other in their plan, one being arranged primari-

ly by subjects and the other by authors. Both are by the secretary of the Linnean Society, and include only books relating to botany. The first, a "Guide to the literature of botany," is intended to give, as stated in the preface, all the works likely to be wanted by English botanists, either for a knowledge of their own botanical literature, local and colonial floras, or for trade. It is, in fact, an abstract of Pritzel's "Thesaurus," and at the same time a supplement to it, some 4000 of its titles being selected from that work, while the remaining 6000 are entered simply because not found in Pritzel, and without any regard to their importance. This attempt to include in it all that has been omitted by Pritzel has resulted in seriously injuring the work as a useful guide to the more important literature of botany, inasmuch as the multitude of titles of books of little or no value greatly increases the difficulty of distinguishing what may be of importance in any special case. This is very evident in the list of "Introductory works," where over thirty pages are occupied with some seven hundred titles of books, the majority of which may be considered as mere rubbish. Scarcely 150 of these are mentioned by Pritzel, and only one third of the fifty-seven that are marked as especially noteworthy are not given by him.

The whole is arranged primarily by subjects according to a somewhat complicated and minutely subdivided system, and after even a short experience in attempting to follow the author in its application we are not surprised to find him saying in his preface: "The task [of arrangement] was one of abundant difficulty, so much so that I would never again attempt a catalogue which was primarily a classified list. Were I again to engage in any extensive bibliographical labor I would steadily adhere to the practice of ranging the works under an alphabetical sequence of authors' names; this course minimizes trouble and chances of error as to names and dates. As a consequence of my systematic arrangement, I found it extremely difficult to refer to my previous collections, thus necessitating additional labor in transcribing, sorting, and finally rejecting close upon three thousand duplicate titles." Those who consult the work can scarcely expect less difficulty than was found by the compiler himself in tracing the books after his distribution of them.

The degree of skill and judgment with which the systematizing of the subjects is carried out is fairly exemplified under the important head of "Monographs," which occupies over fifty pages. Here the several treatises are arranged in subdivisions alphabetically according to the name of the order, tribe, or genus of plants that may be given in the title, with no attempt at any scientific grouping. Hence we find the three sub-heads, "Asteraceæ," "Cassinaceæ," and "Compositæ," merely different names for the same order, and without cross-reference. So "Pinaceæ," and "Conifereæ." What should have been under a single head, "Rosaceæ," are scattered under the several headings, "Cerasus,"

"Geum," "Pomaceæ," "Potentilla," "Prunus," "Rosa," "Rubus," "Sorbus," and "Spiræa." Salm-Dyck's work on the very different genera Aloes and Mesembrianthemum is given under the first but not under the second, and Steudel's *Synopsis Plantarum Glumacearum* is under neither "Gramineæ" nor "Cyperaceæ," but in a miscellaneous group without any heading. Peyritsch's *Aroidæ Maximiliane*, instead of being here under "Aroidæ," is placed among "Local floras" under "Brazil." On the other hand, in that division, Vellozo's *Flora Fluminensis* is not under "Brazil," but under a separate heading, "Rio Janeiro;" and, oddly enough, Gray's *Plante Fendlerianæ* is found under "Entre Rios," South America. "Serial Publications," divided into "Transactions" and "Journals," are arranged by countries and place of publication. "North America" [meaning the United States] makes a poor but curious showing in the way of journals, Philadelphia being credited with three of Rafinesque's worthless publications, New York with the *American Journal of Arts and Sciences*, Salem with the *American Naturalist*, and for the rest nearly half a page is given to showing the migratory character of Coulter's *Botanical Gazette*. Instances of like general character are numerous. The usefulness of the work is also seriously affected by the rule, which the compiler follows very strictly, that no treatise could be admitted unless it possessed both a full title-page and separate pagination—both being points of minor consideration. Numerous very valuable papers, that should have been cited, have appeared in journals or in the publications of societies, and have also been distributed separately, though it may be with the original paging (as should always be the case) and without full title-page. In fact, many of the titles that are given belong to such reprints, though coming within the rule, but the compiler is careful to never make reference to the publications in which they originally appeared, though these would in perhaps a majority of the cases be more accessible than the separate issues. Such papers, for example, as Bentham's revision of the *Mimosæ* and of *Cassia*, his notes on the *Compositæ*, and *Orchidaceæ*, Hooker's *Arctic Flora*, the Botany of the Grant and Speke Expedition, Ball's *Flora Marocana*, Munro's *Bambusaceæ*, Baker's *Liliaceæ* and *Tridaceæ*, Gray's revisions of *Astragalus*, the *Eriogonæ*, etc., and numerous others, certainly ought not to have been omitted. Indeed, if the compiler had rejected the mass of useless titles which he has accumulated, and had instead given us a list of the more important botanical papers that have appeared during the century, wherever found, he would have supplied a serious need and produced a work far more deserving than this of the title which it bears.*

Among the notable omissions of important

* [It may be added that by thus refusing to insert references to parts of works, which is indexing, and confining himself to the enumeration of titles of complete works, which is bibliography, the author has thrown aside the only reason for the publication of his work by the *Index Society*.—Ed.]

works are Pritzel's *Iconum Botanicarum Index*, Wittstein's *Etymologisch-botanisches Handwörterbuch*, and Bonafous' *Histoire du Mays*. A prominent fault is the arrangement of titles under their several headings by the date of the publication, whereby the different works of the same author, even upon the same subject, and sometimes the different editions or translations of the same work, are frequently widely separated. The systematically arranged catalogue is, however, followed by a condensed index, mainly of authors, giving thus a clue to most of the titles, without which the book would be comparatively worthless.

The second work mentioned, the "*Literature of vegetable technology*," includes only works of economic botany, which are arranged simply by authors in alphabetical sequence, followed by a carefully prepared subject-index. Though confessedly very imperfect (the subject of the Vine and its products is omitted entirely, on account of its vastness) and only a "contribution" toward the desired end, yet it is on the whole, so far as it goes, more satisfactory than the author's previous work. The principal objection to be found is that it is unnecessarily defective. Probably one half of the 3600 titles are credited to the *Pharmaceutical Journal*, which may or may not be readily accessible. But the articles in that journal are very often merely extracts from or abstracts of independent publications or more extended articles in other journals. Even when it could easily have been done, no full reference is made, under these titles, to their original source, and the same is true in regard to many other titles of publications, seemingly independent, but which first appeared in some journal or in the proceedings of some society. No pains have been taken to facilitate the finding of such articles.

Catalogues and indexes are, in any case, of value; but the publications of the Index Society certainly ought to be prepared with more care and with better judgment than these volumes evidence.

SERENO WATSON.

JAENNICKÉ, P. *Die gesammte keramische Literatur*. Stuttg., P. Neff, 1882. 16+146 p. 8°. 2 m.

Not complete; and, according to the *Lit. Centralblatt*, the selection is not made on any evident principle.

KRONES, Franz. *Grundriss der österreichischen Geschichte*. Wien, Hölder, 1882. 926 p. 8°.

Each section is preceded with abundant bibliographical references.

LAMA, Ch. de. *Bibliothèque des écrivains de la Congrégation de Saint-Maur; ouvrage publié avec le concours d'un Bénédictin de Solesmes*, par C. de Lama, libraire à Munich. Paris, V. Palmé, 1882. Sm. 8°. 5 fr.

A necessary supplement to the works of Pez, Lecerf, and Tassin.

LOW, Sampson. *English catalogue of books*. Vol. 3, Jan. 1872-Dec. 1880. London, 1882. 562 p. 8°. £2 2s.

MARCHIALI, H. *Ungarns Geschichtsquellen im Zeitalter der Arpaden*. Berlin, Hertz, 1882. 8°.

PAULITSCHKE, P.: *Die Afrika-Literatur, 1500-1750*. Wien, Brockhausen und Bräuer, 1882. 5+122 p. 8°. 4s. 1212 nos.

MR. W. E. A. AXON has added a complete bibliography to his reprint of three early editions of the history of "Mother Shipton" (1641, 1686, and 1684).

THE DICTIONNAIRE du département de l'Eure, nouv. éd. (Evreux, imp. Hérissay, 1882, 44+360 p. 8°, 5 fr.), has a bibliography.

Prof. R. HESS's *Lebensbilder hervorragender Forstmänner u. um das Forstwesen verdienter Mathematiker, Naturforscher, u. s. w.*, of which the 1. Hälfte has just appeared at Berlin (Parey, 8°, p. 1-224, 5 m.), contains lists of the writings of the foresters, etc.

The *Insurance times*, N. Y., for April has the commencement of a bibliography of insurance law, by Mr. J. Griswold.

Amélie SOHR's "*Frauenarbeit in der Armen- und Krankenpflege*," Berlin, J. Springer, 1882, 8+107 p. 8°, contains a bibliography.

Catalogs and cataloging.

BRITISH MUSEUM. *Catalogue of additions to the manuscripts, 1876-81*; [ed. by E. Maunde Thompson]. London, B. Quaritch, 1882. 616 p. 1. 8°. 15s.

2188 mss., over 2300 charters, 2800 detached seals, and five papyri are described. The index occupies 260 pages.

LINDE, Antonius v. der. *Die Nassauer Drucke der königl. Landesbibliothek in Wiesbaden beschrieben*. I: 1467-1817. Wiesbaden, Feller & Gecks, 1882. 64+543 p. 8°. 12 m.

ROYAL INSTITUTION OF GREAT BRITAIN. A new classified catalogue of the library, with indexes of authors and subjects. By B: Vincent, librarian. Vol. 2, incl. the additions 1857-82. London, Royal Institution, 1882. 17+388 p. 8°.

"Compiled upon the plan of the former volume, with the same loose transcription of titles, and the same elaborately unscientific classification. For instance, Bachmaier's '*Pasi-graphic Dictionary*' and Gerrard's '*Siglarium Romanum*' are under Bibliography, the '*English Catalogue*' is described as a bookseller's catalogue, while Nutt's and Dulau's catalogues are gravely entered as French Literature."—*Monthly notes*.

SOCIETY OF WRITERS TO H.M. SIGNET IN SCOTLAND. Catalogue of the printed books in the library. Part 2: M-Z; Supplement and list of mss. Edin., the Society, 1882. p. 617-1292. 4^o.

"The sheets of this volume as far as letter O were printed off under the care of the late Mr. David Laing; the present librarian, Mr. T. G. Law, is responsible for the remainder of the work. The mss. are few, and relate chiefly to Scottish law. The books are fully and carefully catalogued."—*Monthly notes*.

U. S. SURGEON-GENERAL'S OFFICE. Index-catalogue, authors and subjects. Vol. 3: Cholecyanin-Dzondi. Wash., 1882. [2]+11+1020 p. 1. O.

9043 author-titles (for 10,076 v. and 7386 pm.) and 8572 subject-titles with 28,846 titles of articles in periodicals; 4335 portraits are also catalogued.

UNIV. OF CALIFORNIA. Library bulletin no. 3. Catalogue of the library presented by H. D. Bacon. Sac., 1882. 22 p. O.

"1410 v. of standard English literature, in the choicest eds., bound handsomely, 458 v. bd. by Bedford, 177 by Rivière († 12. 4. 1882), 45 by Hayday, and the remainder [by] bibliopagists very nearly as skilful." Carefully catalogued, the A.L.A. size-marks O, D, etc., used. The method of noting the number of volumes, with no space between the figures and the v., is objectionable,—2v, 11v, 91v.

Mr. W. CUSHING announces, Oct. 1, the publication of part 1 of his "Century of authors," which will evidently be a work of great convenience for cataloguers. It is to be issued in monthly numbers of 80 pages each at \$5 a year. It will reach four, perhaps five, volumes of 960 pages each. No public library of any size can afford to be without it.

The *Palatine note-book* for August has a catalogue of the library of Sir T. Holcroft, at Vale Royal, Cheshire, 1616, which included some of the mss. of the monastery there.

FULL NAME.—Mrs. Clara Erskine Clement is now Mrs. Edwin F. Waters.

Indexes.

Tableau général méthodique et alphabétique des matières contenues dans les publications de l'ACADÉMIE IMPÉRIALE DES SCIENCES DE ST.-PÉTERSBOURG. Suppl. 1: les publications en langues étrangères, 1871-1 nov. 1881. St.-Petersb., Lpz., Voss' Sort., 1882. 7+56 p. 8^o. 80 m. (The whole work 7.10 m.)

Table méthodique des articles publiés dans la REVUE de l'art chrétien, jan., 1857-31 déc. 1881, suivie de la table générale des dessins. Paris, Dumoulin et Cie, 1882. 53 p. 8^o.

Library Purchase-List.

A SELECTION OF NEW BOOKS, WITH NOTES OF COMMENDATION OR CAUTION.

Books mentioned without notes can, as a rule, be safely purchased for the general reader. The binding, unless otherwise expressed, is generally understood to be in cloth.

ABEL, C., M.D. Linguistic essays. Bost., Houghton. O. (Eng. and for. philos. lib.) \$4.

ALEXANDER, Mrs. (pseud. for Mrs. A. F. Hector). Look before you leap: a novel. N. Y., Holt. S. (Leisure hour ser.) \$1.

ALLEN, Jos. H. Our liberal movement in theology: chiefly as shown in recollections of the history of Unitarianism in New England. Bost., Roberts. S. \$1.25.

"Written with a scholarly justice of tone. Religious essays as well executed as these are rare enough."—*Boston Advertiser*.

ANDERSON, T. M. The political conspiracies preceding the rebellion; or, the true stories of Sumter and Pickens. N. Y., Putnam. O. \$1.

"Seeks to repel the charges at one time made by a portion of the press against his father's loyalty to the government, and gives an account of the conspiracies of the secessionists before the war to get possession of the forts in Charleston harbor."—*Boston Transcript*.

ANSTEE, F. Vice versa; or, a lesson to fathers. N. Y., Appleton. D. \$1.

"A remarkable book, received in England with a clamor of applause. The author takes an old stage-conceit—the transformation of a father into the personality of his son—and then depicts the results of the transformation as they would happen in real life. It is really an arraignment, jocosely made, of the system of English private schools."—*Critic*.

BJÖRNSSON, Björnstjerne. Captain Mansana, and other stories; from the Norse, by Rasmus B. Anderson. Author's ed. Bost., Houghton. D. \$1.

COBBE, Frances Power. The peak in Darien; essays. Bost., Ellis. D. \$1.50.

"The first essay, 'Magnanimous atheism,' goes into the question 'whether the denial of God and immortality be indeed a magnanimous creed?' 'Hygiolatry' is an attack on the present health mania; 'Pessimism, and one of its professors,' asks whether life is really a burthen and a curse; 'Zoophily' discusses vivisection; 'The fitness of women for the ministry of religion' explains itself; 'The house on the shore of eternity' and 'The peak in Darien' are both on religious topics, the latter referring to death and immortality."

"These essays are warm and emotional and earnest, but they are not satisfactory; and a reader who is neither an agnostic, a homœopath, a pessimist, nor an advocate of vivisection, must feel that Miss Cobbe is unfair to her opponents, and that her satire and sharpness do not give weight to her opinions."—*Boston Advertiser*.

COOPER, T. V., and Fenton, Hector T., eds. American politics (non-partisan) from the beginning to date. Phil., Fireside Publishing Co., 1882. O. (subs.) \$5.

COX, Jacob D. The march to the sea: Franklin and Nashville. N. Y., Scribner. maps and plans, D. (Campaigns of the civil war, no. 10.) \$1.

CRAIK, Georgiana M. Fortune's marriage: a novel. N. Y., Q. (Harper's Franklin sq. lib.) pap., 20 c.

- DIPFOLD, G: Theodore. The great epics of mediæval Germany: an outline of their contents and history. Bost., Roberts. S. \$1.50.
- DOCTOR BEN: an episode in the life of a fortunate unfortunate. Bost., Osgood & Co. S. (Round robin ser.) \$1.
 "Professes to deal with the question of insanity. . . . The plot is sensational to the last degree."—*Springfield Republican*.
- ELLIS, Sumner, D.D. Life of Edwin H. Chapin, D.D. Bost., Universalist Pub. House. por. and il. O. \$1.50.
 "A vivid picture of an engaging character."—*N. Y. Tribune*.
- FIELD, Kate. Charles Albert Fechter. Bost., Osgood. il. and por. D. (American actor ser.) \$1.25.
 "The spirit of this biography may be indicated in two words—charity and admiration. It is the straightforward, explicit, candid narrative of one who can admire an artist without being blind to the frailties of a man—obtruded, as in this case those frailties were, into the artist's public work and life."—*N. Y. Tribune*.
- FROTHINGHAM, Octavius Brooks. George Ripley. Boston, Houghton. por. S. (American men of letters.) \$1.25.
 "A truthful picture of a learned, industrious, amiable, and philosophic writer, who for many years instructed and guided the American reader."—*Springfield Republican*.
- GATCHELL, C: Doctor, what shall I eat? Chic., Duncan Bros. D. \$1.
- GRÉVILLE, Henry (*pseud.* for Mme. Alice Durand). Sylvie's betrothed: a Russian story; tr. by Mary Neal Sherwood. Phil., Peterson. sq. S. \$1.25; pap., 75 c.
 "Although the title calls this a 'Russian story' (evidently through a mistake), the scene is laid in Paris, and the characters are Parisians of fashionable society; the story deals with love and temptation, but is purely written."—*Publishers' weekly*.
- HEATON, M. Compton. Correggio. N. Y., Scribner & Welford. il. (Great Artists ser.) S. \$1.
- HOLLISTER, G. H. Kinley Hollow: a novel. N. Y., Holt. S. (Leisure hour ser.) \$1.
 "The double love-affair is weak, and the tragedy at the close forced and sensational; but as a picture of New England spiritual life and thought at the epoch it depicts, the book has value."—*Literary world*.
- HOSPITALIER, E. The modern applications of electricity; tr. and enl. by Julius Maier. N. Y., Appleton. O. \$1.50.
- HOUGH, Franklin B. Elements of forestry. Cin., Clarke. D. \$2.
- HOWELLS, W: D. A modern instance: a novel. Bost., Osgood. D. \$1.50.
 "As a whole, one of the author's strongest though not one of his most pleasing compositions."—*Boston Advertiser*.
- KEAY, J. Seymour. Spoiling the Egyptians: a tale of shame told from the British Blue-books. N. Y., Putnam. D. 75 c.; pap., 40 c.
 "A very astounding revelation in regard to the conduct of England toward Egypt."—*Boston Post*.
- KEMBLE, Frances Ann. Records of later life. N. Y., Holt. O. \$2.50.
 "The book consists almost wholly of letters written by Mrs. Kemble to friends and relatives, which relate with equal frankness the history of the writer's babies and her thoughts on religion. Mrs. Kemble may be classed justly among the few good letter-writers in late literature. Her personal 'reminiscences' are invariably bright."—*N. Y. Times*.
- LANDOR, Walter Savage. The imaginary conversations. *New ed.* Bost., Roberts. 5 v. D. \$5.
 "With his usual contempt of popularity, Landor compared the productions of his day to gin-palaces, and his own to temperance societies, and he was right. They are not tempting to debauched appetites that are perpetually craving stimulants, but they are refreshing, bracing, strengthening, and healthful."—*N. Y. Mail and express*.
- LANDOR, Walter Savage. Selections from the writings of W. S. Landor, arranged and edited by Sidney Colvin. N. Y., Macmillan. S. (Golden treasury ser.) \$1.25.
 "A hoard of verbal jewels—of maxims cut like gems, and sentences that ring like golden oracles. The lustre it reflects upon Landor, considered merely as an artist in words, is remarkable; never before have the dignity and beauty of his style asserted themselves to such purpose."—*Academy*.
- MACDONALD, G: Weighed and wanting. Bost., Lothrop. il. D. \$1.50.
 "The style is not Mr. Macdonald's best."—*Boston Advertiser*.
- MAHAN, Asa. System of mental philosophy. Chic., Griggs. D. \$1.50.
- MORLEY, J: Life of Richard Cobden. N. Y., Scribner & Welford. Q. pap., 40 c.
- MÜLLER, W: Political history of recent times, 1816-1875, with special reference to Germany; rev. and enl. by the author; translated with an appendix covering the period from 1876 to 1881 by the Rev. J. P. Peters. N. Y., Harper. D. \$3.
 "In selecting Müller's book as one 'which should give to thoughtful students a view, large but concise, of the political history of Continental Europe in the nineteenth century,' Pres. White, of Cornell University certainly did the right thing; and the work of translating, abridging, and completing has also been executed with ability and literary fidelity, although it is not free from blemishes. An index of the principal dates has been supplied by the translator, as well as a general index of matters and a complete index of persons—additions which further enhance the great value of the work."—*N. Y. Evening post*.
- NOHL, L: Life of Haydn; from the German by G. P. Upton. Chic., Jansen, McClurg & Co. por. D. (Biographies of musicians.) \$1.25.
- OSWALD, Felix L. Zoölogical sketches: a contribution to the outdoor study of natural history, with 36 il. by Hermann Fähr. Phil., Lippincott. O. \$2.
- PETER, C. Chronological tables of Greek history; with short narrative of events, with references to the sources of information and extracts from ancient authorities; from the German by G. Chawner. N. Y., Macmillan. Q. \$3.
- PHELPS, Elizabeth Stuart. Doctor Zay: a novel. Bost., Houghton. S. \$1.25.
 "In Mr. Howells' story the feminine characteristics of the heroine stand in the way of her professional success in a manner very abhorrent to the more advanced reformers. . . . In this story of Miss Phelps the feminine attributes of her heroine act the other way, and give an exalted professional enthusiasm and a delicacy of insight to her ministrations which a coarser masculine mind might suffer from the lack of."—*Boston Advertiser*.
- READE, C: Multum in parvo: stories. N. Y. Q. (Harper's Franklin sq. lib.) pap., 15 c.
 Contains: The history of an acre; The Knightsbridge mystery; Single heart and double face.

RITA (*pseud.*) *Faustine*: a novel. Phil., Lip-pincott, 1883 [1882]. S. \$1.

"The book has ability of a certain kind, but it is not the kind of reading that a careful and judicious parent would care to see in his daughter's hands."—*Philadelphia North American*.

RUSSELL, W. Clark. *My watch below*: or, yarns spun when off duty. N. Y. O. (Harper's Franklin sq. lib.; Seaside lib.) pap., 20 c.

SALA, G. A. *America revisited*. N. Y., Scribner & Welford. 2 v. O. \$12.

SHEPHERD, Mrs. E. R. *For girls*: a special physiology. N. Y., Fowler & Wells. D. \$1.

"Chapters on subjects relative to a young girl's life and health which she ought to know, and which are generally considered within the province of a mother to communicate."

STEPHEN, Leslie. [Jonathan] Swift. N. Y., Harper. D. (English men of letters.) 75 c.

"Mr. Stephen takes a more favorable view of Swift's character than that in which it has pleased some other critics to indulge; probably he presents the unhappy man of genius in the least repulsive aspect consistent with historic truth."—*N. Y. Tribune*.

STERNE, Simon. *Constitutional history and political development of the United States*. N. Y., Cassell. D. \$1.25.

STEVENSON, Robert Louis. *Familiar studies of men and books*. N. Y., Scribner & Welford. D. \$2.40.

"Mr. Stephenson's nationality makes his paper on Burns—intended as a corrective of Principal Shairp's monograph—as sympathetic as it is penetrating. To us the most interesting essays are those on Thoreau and Walt Whitman. The latter seems to us to be one of the few sane criticisms of this poet. Excellent also is a paper on Samuel Pepps."—*N. Y. Post*.

SPODDARD, W. O. *Saltillo boys*. N. Y., Scribner. D. \$1.

"A capital juvenile book. It is full of bright and interesting incidents, graphically told."—*Boston Gazette*.

TOWLE, G. M. *Drake*: the sea-king of Devon. Bost., Lee & Shepard. il. S. (Heroes of history.) \$1.25.

VAN HORNE, T. B. *The life of Major-General George H. Thomas*. N. Y., Scribner's Sons. maps and por., O. \$3.

WALPOLE, C. G. *A short history of the kingdom of Ireland*: from the earliest times to the union with Great Britain. N. Y., Harper. maps, D. \$1.75.

"A very good small history of that unhappy country; not a brilliant work, but condensed to a convenient size, without the dryness of a compendium."—*Boston Advertiser*.

WARBURTON, Rev. W. *Edward III.* N. Y., Scribner. maps, S. (Epochs of modern history.) \$1.

"The history of the age of Chaucer, the Black Prince, Froissart, the Jacquerie, the Black Death, Crecy, and Poitiers, is necessarily an interesting one."

WARNER, Miss Susan. *Nobody*. [Anon.] N. Y., Carter. D. \$1.75.

WILKINS, W. A. *The Cleverdale mystery*: or, the machine and its wheels: a story of American life. N. Y., Fords, Howard & Hulbert. D. \$1.

"A showing up of the working of our present 'machine politics,' not only among the politicians and their offices, but also in the daily life of all who are connected with them, directly and indirectly."

General Notes.

MR. SAMUEL MORLEY, M.P., has given £250 toward the establishment of a children's library at Nottingham.

BRITISH MUSEUM.—Since Sept. 1 the reading-room of the British Museum has been illuminated by four new Siemens' arc lamps, which distribute equal light over the whole room. They will be in operation until April 1, so that the reading-room may be kept open until 8 P.M.

THE foundation-stone of a free library for Leek, Staffordshire, the gift of Mr. Joshua Nicholson, head of the firm of Messrs. Brough, Nicholson, & Co., silk manufacturers, was laid on Sept. 11. The institution is to include an art gallery, museum, and school of art. The building and endowment will cost about £20,000.

CASTELLANI and Podestà have been honorably acquitted by the Italian courts of the accusation, under which they have so long lain, of neglect of their duties at the Biblioteca Vittorio Emanuele of Rome. The terms in which the verdict has been delivered implicate gravely the trustworthiness of the Committee of Inquiry of two years ago, when so many serious charges, which now turn out to have been entirely groundless, were made against several important officials.—*Monthly notes*.

WHEN the foundation-stone of the new Free Library and Museum was laid at Preston, Sept. 5, Lord Derby said: "In the middle ages it was thought a strange and even a discreditable thing if any man who was well-off died without leaving some portion of his wealth to the Church. May it not come to be thought in the same way a thing not unusual, but to be expected and almost a matter of course, that every one who has something to spare from the wants of his family shall, either in life or at the close of it, contribute something to the enjoyment or to the intellectual requirements of the community in which he lives?"

DR. MOZLEY, in his "Reminiscences of Oriel College," gives an entertaining account of life at Oxford in the last century. One J. Pickford was elected a fellow of Oriel because the college had a great number of very dusty books which wanted arranging on the shelves of their newly-built library. All through a very hot summer Pickford was kept at the work, and when he was long past fifty he assured Mr. Mozley that with all his efforts he had been unable to wash the dust of those books down. He believed that it existed somewhere among the tissues of his throat, and his later life was chiefly devoted to the task of getting rid of it.

ERRATA.

P. 179, 2d col., l. 31, for *vulgus* read *volgus*.

P. 179, l. 37, for *filled* read *filed*.

P. 182, 2d col., l. 11, for *is* read *are*.

NEW BOOKS.

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